

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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R 131539Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9451

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 02192

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL DA

SUBJECT: PROTEST AGAINST ANTI-AMERICAN EXHIBITION

1. I PROTESTED STRONGLY TODAY (AUGUST 12) TO NATHALIE LIND, THE MINISTER OF CULTURE, OVER THE VIRULENT ANTI-AMERICAN TONE OF AN EXHIBITION NOW BEING SHOWN BY THE BREDE BRANCH OF THE DANISH MUSEUM, A STATE RUN AND SUPPORT ORGANIZATION.

2. BILLED AS "THE WHITE GOD AND PEOPLE OF LATIN AMERICA" THE EXHIBITION PURPORTS TO GIVE A FAIR PICTURE OF LIFE SOUTH OF THE BORDER BUT IN FACT PRESENTS AN OUTRAGEOUSLY SLANTED MARXIST CONCEPT OF LIFE THERE. BLAME FOR EVERYTHING FROM THE SLUMS TO STARVATION IS LAID SQUARELY IN THE LAP OF THE UNITED STATES WHILE THE HEROES OF THE SCENARIO ARE CASTRO, CHE GUEVARA, AND ALLENDE.

3. A DANISH LANGUAGE LECTURE PRESENTATION, ILLUSTRATED BY COLOR SLIDES REPEATED EVERY THIRTY MINUTES, REPEATS THE SAME PRO-COMMUNIST ANTI-YANKEE THEME, WHILE IN THE
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"INFORMATION CENTER" LEFT-WING PAMPHLETS AND NEWSPAPERS

ARE GIVEN AWAY. NOT CONTENT WITH US SINS IN LATIN AMERICA
SOME OF THESE PUBLICATIONS ARE STILL REHASHING OUR "IMPERIALIST
WAR" IN INDO-CHINA.

4. I EXPLAINED TO THE MINISTER THAT I WOULD NOT HAVE COME
TO HER IF THE EXHIBITION HAD BEEN A PRIVATE ONE BUT WHEN IT
IS PRESENTED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE OF DENMARK, A NATO ALLY
AND OLD FRIEND OF AMERICA, THE PICTURE CHANGES RADICALLY.
I ALSO ASKED HER WHY THE MUSEUM AUTHORITIES HAD ALLOWED
MEMBERS OF THE "DANISH-CUBAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY" TO SET
UP THE EXHIBIT WHICH IS NOW BEING SEEN BY THOUSANDS OF DANISH
SCHOOL CHILDREN.

5. THE MINISTER, A MODERATE AND A FORMER DISTRICT ATTORNEY,
ADMITTED FRANKLY THAT SHE HAS NEVER SEEN THE EXHIBIT AND HAD
NO IDEA THAT THE MESSAGE IT CONVEYS IS AS DEMEANING TO MY
COUNTRY AS I SAID IT IS. SHE PROMISED TO QUESTION THE DIRECTOR
OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM ABOUT IT AND LET ME KNOW HIS REACTION.
SHE ALSO SAID SHE WOULD GO AND SEE IT HERSELF.

6. IN ADDITION TO THE MINISTER OF CULTURE I INTEND TO BRING UP
THE MATTER WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND HAVE ASKED PETER HELLER,
THE PAO, TO SEE THAT THE DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUM GETS A CLEAR
VIEW OF OUR FEELINGS FROM HIM AS WELL AS FROM MRS. LIND.
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